



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

[4910-EX-P]

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[FMCSA-2013-0171]

Qualification of Drivers; Exemption Applications; Vision

AGENCY: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of denials.

SUMMARY: FMCSA announces its denial of 91 applications from individuals who requested an exemption from the Federal vision standard applicable to interstate truck and bus drivers and the reasons for the denials. FMCSA has statutory authority to exempt individuals from the vision requirement if the exemptions will provide a level of safety that is equivalent to or greater than the level of safety maintained without the exemptions. The Agency has concluded that granting these individuals an exemption would not achieve the required level of safety.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Elaine M. Papp, Chief, Medical Programs Division, 202-366-4001, U.S. Department of Transportation, FMCSA, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E., Room W64-224, Washington, DC 20590-0001. Office hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Under 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, FMCSA may grant an exemption from the Federal vision standard for a renewable 2-year period if it finds “such an exemption would likely achieve a level of safety that is equivalent to or greater than the level that would be achieved absent such an exemption.” The procedures for requesting an exemption are set forth in 49 CFR part 381.

Accordingly, FMCSA evaluated 91 individual exemption requests on their merit and made a determination that these applicants do not satisfy the criteria eligibility or meet the terms and conditions of the Federal exemption program. Each applicant has, prior to this notice, received a letter of final disposition on the exemption request. Those decision letters fully outlined the basis for the denial and constitute final Agency action. The list published in this notice summarizes the Agency's recent denials as required under 49 U.S.C. 31315(b)(4) by periodically publishing names and reasons for denial.

The following 15 applicants had no experience operating a CMV:

Daniel S. Billig	Christopher Delo	Alan Dorantes
Deborah S. Ford	Rebecca L. Jenson	Christopher M. Kelly
Alex M. Long	Charles McDonald	Kenneth C. Mead
Abdelkhaleq R. Muhammad	Eduardo Nunez	Michael J. Sawlville
Richard Seidel	Kyle Smith	Kirk C. Ward

The following 23 applicants did not have 3 years of experience driving a CMV on public highways with their vision deficiencies:

Gordon T. Anderson	Amanuel W. Behon	John Bertelle
Devon W. Bivens	Vernie W. Bochmann	Larry Brown
Larry E. Carter	Eric Cherry	Donald Darling
David Dibbs	Everett H. Fuller	Tom Gibson
Joshua A. Holcombe	Christopher A. Johnson	Thomas R. Lease
Collin C. Longacre	Jason McKinney	Michael L. Mueting
Steven D. Nelson	Steven S. Smith, Jr.	Kyle L. Souza
Kyle M. Wallace	Ricky W. Woods	

The following 3 applicants did not have 3 years of recent experience driving a CMV with the vision deficiency:

Roy Duncan	Edmond Harold	John M. Munroe
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The following applicant, Dawson Smith, did not have sufficient driving experience during the past 3 years under normal highway operating conditions.

The following 2 applicants had their commercial driver's license suspended during the 3-year review period for moving violations. Applicants do not qualify for an exemption with a suspension during the 3-year period:

Buck J. Barney	Charles R. Edwards
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The following applicant, Victor A. Jorge, did not have verifiable proof of commercial driving experience over the past 3 years under normal highway operating conditions that would serve as an adequate predictor of future safe performance.

The following applicant, James C. Reed, Jr., was unable to obtain a statement from an optometrist or ophthalmologist stating that he was able to operate a commercial vehicle from a vision standpoint.

The following 15 applicants were denied for miscellaneous/multiple reasons:

Anthony Bartel	Ricky A. Bruens	DeAndre Bryan
Robert S. Buckwalter	John R. Freeman	George H. Harrison
Tim Hollenback	Darrel J. Karpowicz	Jason S. Klepp
Mark H. Schneewind	Brian R. Smith	Glenn Snowberger
Drake M. Vendsel	James E. Wilkes, III	Willard C. Wilson

The following applicant, Don R. Alexander, was denied because he never submitted the required documents.

The following 11 applicants met the current federal vision standards. Exemptions are not required for applicants who meet the current regulations for vision:

Bryan L. Adkins	Charles J. Clay, Jr.	Michael W. Doig
Jonathan E. Edwards	Shane B. Henninger	Kevin Hesson
Aldric L. Jones	Fernando Polanco	Francisca M. Rhodes
Ronald F. Simpson	Russel P. Worl	

The following 12 applicants were denied because they will not be driving interstate, interstate commerce, or not required to carry a DOT medical card:

Pasco Anderson	Steven K. Bain	William C. Braaten
Stanley Chaskey	Keith Dowty	Richard B. Grove
Richard Hazelwood	Wilton F. Marine	James B. McCullough
Gary D. Morgan	Michael Nishida-Llanes	Dennis C. Welpé

Finally, the following 6 applicants perform transportation for the federal government, state, or any political sub-division of the state.

Michael Newhouse	Donald C. Schmitt	Ronnie L. Pruitt
Denish L. McQueen	Jimmy J. Thornton	Sharon McDaniel

Issued on: December 16, 2013

Larry W. Minor
Associate Administrator for Policy

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